

Siena College
Economics Department

What Can I Do with My Econ Major?

General Resources

An economics major does not necessarily provide the training for any specific occupation; rather it supplies the skills—critical thinking, problem solving, technical and policy analysis, quantitative analysis (econometrics), fluency with spreadsheets—that are demanded by organizations in all sectors of the economy. This provides a breadth of opportunity for those willing to invest the resources in a well-designed job search.

The following websites are a good place to begin your search. The last two are specific to public sector and non-profit jobs.

<http://www.idealists.org>
<http://www.econ-jobs.com/>
<http://www.opm.gov/> (Office of Personnel Management)
<http://www.usajobs.com/>
<http://www.aeaweb.org/students/Careers.php>

Keywords & Search Terms

Analyst / analytics
Research
Consultant
Data analysis / data management
Technical analysis
Policy analysis
Forecasting / estimation.
Econometrics

Private Sector

Financial firms / Investment banks / Banks
Data analyst
Market research
Economic and management consulting
 McKinsey, Accenture, Deloitte, Ernst & Young, Bain & Co., Boston Consulting Group
Marketing / Advertising
Management
Human resources
Insurance
Health care / Hospitals
Journalism

Non-Profit Sector (many are DC-based)

Think tanks / Research assistant

Center for Budget and Policy Priorities, Center for Economic and Policy Research, Economic Policy Institute, New America Foundation, Brookings Institute, Urban Institute, Fiscal Policy Institute, Rockefeller Institute

Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)

International Monetary Fund, World Bank, United Nations, World Trade Organization, Microfinance firms

Environmental agencies

Public Sector

State Government

Ways and means, budget, economic development, trade promotion, Department of Labor, Department of Health

Federal Government

Federal Reserve (12 regional banks and DC), Treasury Department, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Census Bureau, Congressional Budget Office, Department of Agriculture, Department of Labor, Department of Health & Human Services, State Department, CIA

Congressional aide

Grad School

Disciplinary (GRE)

Economics: Ph.D (funding), Masters (no funding)

Graduate school in economics requires a strong math and stats background.

Positions for econ graduate students are generally advanced positions of those listed on this sheet, in addition to academia (teaching)

International Relations

Public health

General

Law school (LSAT) – mergers and acquisitions, labor,

Masters of Business Administration (MBA) (GMAT)

Masters of Public Policy (MPP) (GRE)

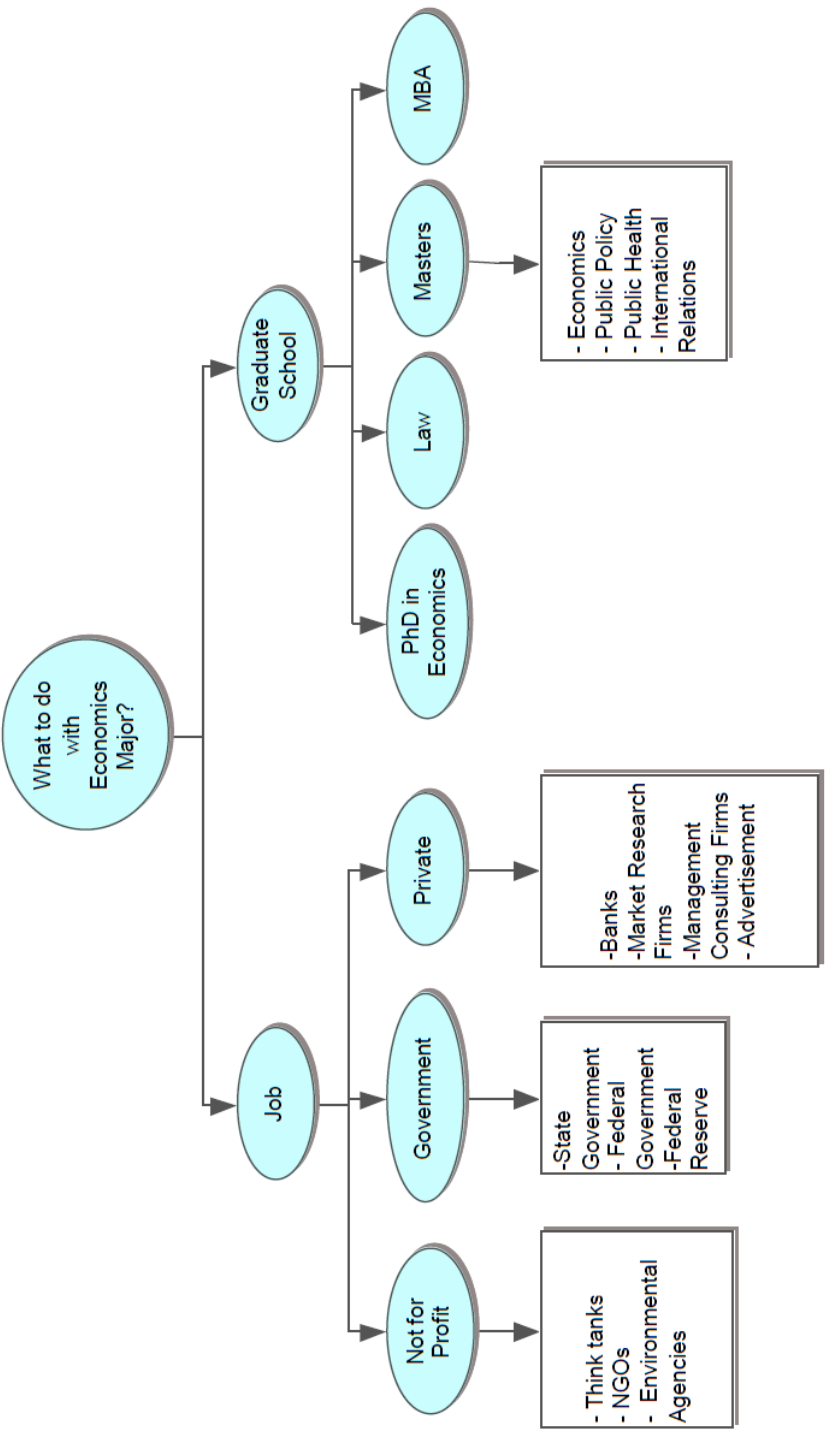
How to prepare?

Start thinking about in your junior year!

Applications due in late December

Prepare for and take GRE, LSAT, GMAT summer before senior year

Calculus/math courses, focus on econometrics paper for writing sample

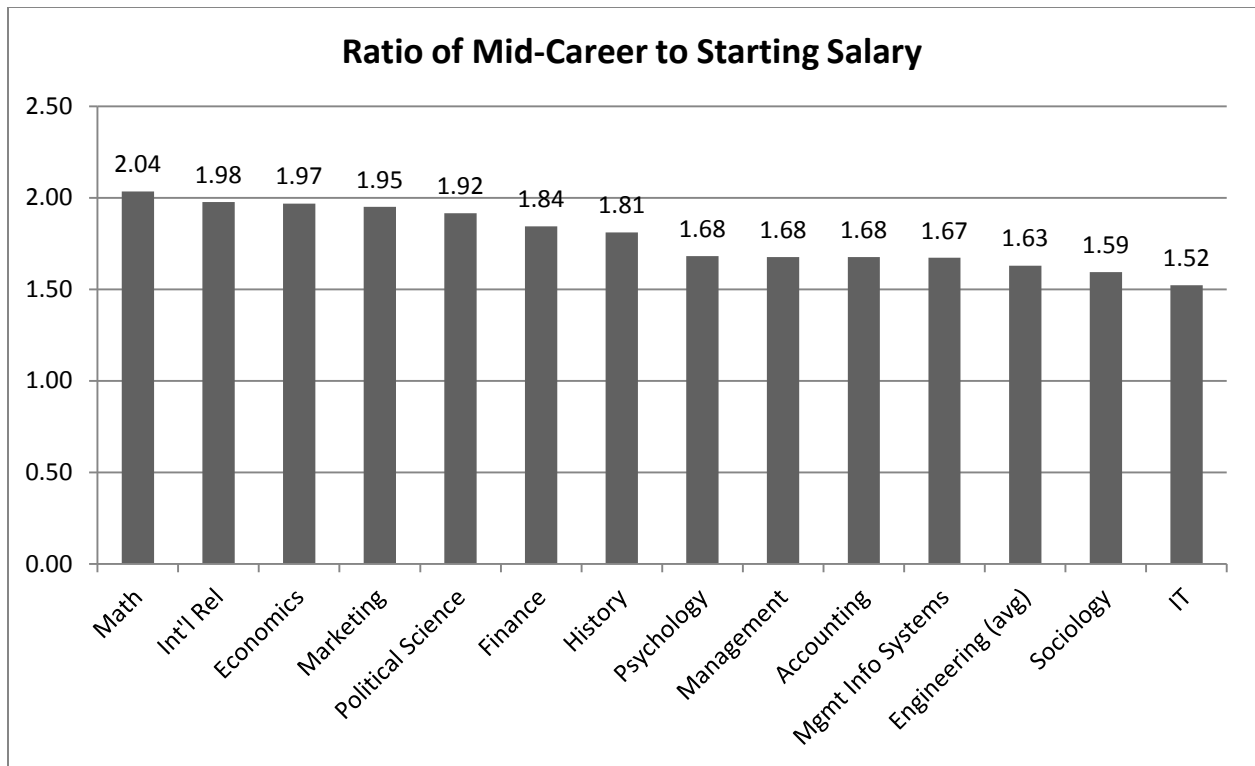
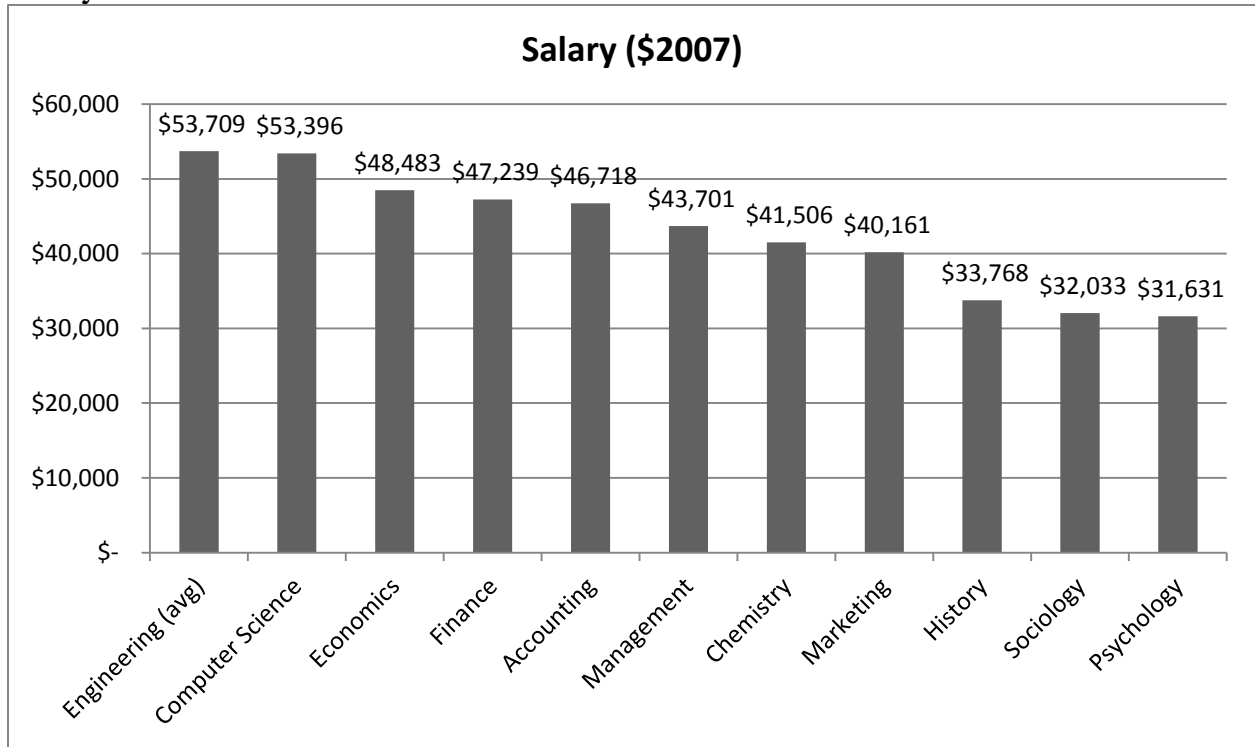


Salary Data

Major	Average wage/hr	Wages for top 10%	Wages for bottom 10%
Economics	\$43.15	\$78.43	\$13.90
Electrical Engineering	\$41.61	\$63.24	\$20.10
Mechanical Engineering	\$40.43	\$58.82	\$19.61
Finance	\$38.21	\$65.36	\$14.71
Mathematics	\$37.76	\$63.73	\$14.01
Accounting	\$36.88	\$60.33	\$14.71
Computers & IT	\$35.83	\$56.37	\$16.18
Political Science	\$33.32	\$57.25	\$12.60
Marketing	\$32.90	\$57.29	\$13.73
Business Management	\$31.56	\$51.96	\$13.24

Source: Wall St Journal

Salary Data



Source: American Economic Association.